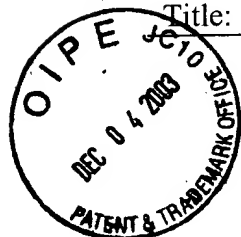


S/N 09/939,523

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: GRABOWSKI, ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN
Serial No.: 09/939,523 Group Art Unit: 3732
Filed: AUGUST 24, 2001 Docket No.: 6683.64US01
Title: BONE FIXATION DEVICE



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 2, 2003.

By:

Name:

Carla J. [Signature]
Carla J. [Signature]

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED
DEC 10 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a one-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed October 02, 2003, said period of response being extended from November 02, 2003 to December 02, 2003.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 13-2725 to cover the required extension fee for a large entity.

12/08/2003 MDAHTE1 00000081 132725 09939523

01 FC:1251 110.00 DA



Date: Dec. 2, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
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Karen A. Fitzsimmons
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